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**REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME DATA ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT**

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**WCPFC6-2009/IP08**  
**11 November 2009**

**Paper prepared by the Secretariat**

**Introduction**

1. The ROP-IWG3 noted that the WCPFC5's decisions regarding the administration and management of Regional Observer Programme (ROP) data had several implications for the ROP. As a result, the Secretariat, in consultation with its Data Services Provider (SPC-OFP), revised the data processing options and costs for the ROP which were originally provided in WCPFC5-2008/16, Attachment B.

2. The provisional revised costings, providing for data processing options at the SPC headquarters, Noumea, the WCPFC Secretariat, Pohnpei and the SPC Office in Fiji, were provided to the ROP-IWG for information and advice (WCPFC-ROP-IWG3-2009/IP03). The Secretariat explained that it would undertake additional work on these estimates and table revisions for CCMs' consideration at the Fifth Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC5).

3. TCC5 reviewed the estimated costs of managing observer data "Regional Observer Programme Data Administration and Management" (WCPFC-TCC5-2009/08, Table 6.1), and narrowed the options to 5.1 and 5.3. TCC5 directed the Secretariat to draft budget proposals for both these options for provision to CCMs at WCPFC6.

4. A draft transitional plan for consideration of financial aspects will be prepared for the WCPFC7 Finance and Administration Committee.

5. The figures in Table 1 and in the remainder of this paper are based on the options provided in WCPFC-TCC5-2009/08, noting that TCC5 chose options 5.1 and 5.3 from this paper.

**Table 1 - Estimated data entry cost per trip**

	<b>Options</b>	<b>Est. cost per trip (US\$)</b>
<b>5.1</b>	Observer Providers, FFA (Honiara) and SPC (Noumea)	<b>535</b>
<b>5.3</b>	Observer Providers, FFA (Honiara) and WCPFC Secretariat (Pohnpei)	<b>393</b>

**Option 5 (Longline)**

6. Option 5 (longline) envisages observer providers authorized to contribute to the ROP punching the ROP observer data at their own cost. Using information provided by the SPC, it is estimated that 832 longline trips will require data entry each year.

7. Under a scenario of the observer provider punching the data it is estimated that approximately 65 per cent of longline trip data (624 trips) could be punched by the ROP national observer providers, at their own expense. Approximately 35 per cent of the data (208 trips) would be punched by the WCPFC's data provider (SPC). The FFA Secretariat does not punch longline data. (Note that these

percentages include non-FFA member longline observer programmes, e.g. NMFS, Hawaii, so the higher proportion of data entry will be done by member countries).

**Option 5 (Purse Seine)**

8. Under a project sponsored by the SPC to have FFA/SPC members with well developed observer programmes enter their own observer data, it is envisaged for purse seine trips that approximately 50 per cent of the collected data (1,087 trips) will be punched by observer providers and the FFA Secretariat, with approximately 50 per cent of the data (1,087 trips) to be punched by the SPC.

**Option 5 (Longline and Purse Seine)**

9. Combining the estimated figures for Option 5 long line and purse-seine would result in a total of 3,006 observer trips per year with 1,711 trips being entered by national observer providers and the FFA Secretariat. It is estimated that approximately 1295 trips would be entered by the SPC or the WCPFC Secretariat.

10. Cost estimates associated with options 5.1 and 5.3 have been calculated for 2010-2012. A cost estimate for a hybrid of options 5.1 and 5.3 has also been calculated for 2010-2012.

**Option 5.1 – Observer Providers, FFA Secretariat and SPC**

11. With observer data entry by Observer Providers and FFA (57 per cent), and SPC (43 per cent), the estimated cost for the Commission for a full year is \$692,000 (43 per cent of 3,006 trips X US\$535).

12. Noting that 2010 will be year of setting up infrastructure and development, it is estimated that the first three months of 2010 will be devoted to establishment and infrastructure development. During the following three months, training and data gathering would occur with an expectation of the commencement of full data entry in approximately June /July 2010. Therefore, the budget for 2010 is reduced for these reasons.

**Table 2 - Estimated cost of data entry for 2010-2012**

Year	Estimated Cost of Data Entry (US\$)
2010*	400,000
2011	692,000
2012	730,000

\*approximate half-year cost for SPC plus \$54,000 infrastructure and development cost.

13. These cost estimates are for the SPC in the Commission’s budget and do not take into account Observer Providers’ and FFA Secretariat costs. These entities would need to recover their own portion of the costs, separate from those of the Commission.

**Option 5.3 – Observer Providers, FFA Secretariat and WCPFC Secretariat**

14. With observer data entry by Observer Providers and the FFA Secretariat (57 per cent), and the WCPFC Secretariat (43 per cent) the estimated cost for the Commission for a full year is \$508,000 (43 per cent of 3,006 trips X US\$393).

15. Noting that 2010 will be year of setting up infrastructure and development it is estimated that the first three months of 2010 will be devoted to establishment and infrastructure development. During the following three months, training and data gathering would occur with an expectation of the commencement of full data entry in approximately June /July 2010. Therefore, the budget for 2010 is reduced for these reasons (Table 3).

**Table 3 - Estimated cost of data entry for 2010-2012**

Year	Estimated Cost of Data Entry (US\$)
2010*	305,000
2011	508,000
2012	560,000

\*approximately half-year cost for the WCPFC Secretariat plus \$51,000 infrastructure and development cost.

16. These cost estimates are for the WCPFC Secretariat to enter data and do not take into account Observer Providers' and FFA Secretariat costs. These entities would need to recover their own portion of the costs separate from those of the Commission.

**Hybrid Option (5.1 and 5.3) – Observer Providers, FFA Secretariat, SPC and WCPFC Secretariat**

17. Following TCC5, some CCMs have suggested that a hybrid of options 5.1 and 5.3 also be costed and this option has been included for CCMs' information.

18. With observer data entry by Observer Providers and the FFA Secretariat (57 per cent), SPC (30 per cent) and WCPFC Secretariat (13 per cent) the estimated cost for the Commission for a full year is \$637,000, as presented in Table 4.

**Table 4 – Calculation of estimated cost to the Commission for data entry**

<b>Data Entry Location</b>	<b>Estimated number of trips</b>	<b>Estimated Cost (US\$)*</b>
SPC	30 per cent of 3,006 = 902	902 x 535 = 483,000
WCPFC Secretariat	13 per cent of 3,006 = 391	391 x 393 = 154,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>637,000</b>

\*The SPC and WCPFC Secretariat have different cost structures because of their different locations.

19. Noting that 2010 will be year of setting up infrastructure and development it is estimated that the first three months of 2010 will be devoted to establishment and infrastructure development. During the following three months, training and data gathering would occur with an expectation of the commencement of full data entry in approximately June /July 2010. As completely new infrastructure would need to be set up for the WCPFC Secretariat, compared to the SPC where set-up would be additional to current infrastructure, the budget for 2010 has taken this into account (Table 5).

**Table 5 - Estimated cost of data entry for 2010-2012**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Estimated Cost of Data Entry (US\$)</b>
2010*	398,000
2011	637,000
2012	700,000

\* Infrastructure development cost divided for each location - \$30,000 for Noumea, and \$50,000 for infrastructure and development in Pohnpei.

**Conclusion**

20. The Commission is invited to note the cost estimates for ROP data administration and management under various scenarios and adopt an arrangement that will support ROP data administration in 2010, noting that in future years, arrangements may be refined by the Commission on the basis of experience in 2010 and subsequent years.